

02-23-16

Bill,

Please let me know if you have any suggestions.

Thx.

Brock

**FY 2017 PPG WORK PLAN FOR WATER QUALITY PROGRAMS – ALASKA
CWA 106 and 319 Grant Funds**

All program activity measures identified are from the National Water Program Guidance: Fiscal Year FY16-FY17 (EPA 420-R-15-008).

Note that all outcomes will not be achieved during the FY 2016 grant period.

ACWA DATA COLLECTION AND ASSESSMENT			
Work plan Section I: Water Quality Standards	Objective: Establish protective standards. Quality data is available for decision-making.		Level of effort funded by PPG: FTE 2.3, \$275,920.23
Outcome	DEC Tasks/Activities	EPA Tasks/Activities	Measures/Completion Date
1. The State's regulations and guidelines for the Water Quality Standards (WQS) are protective of designated uses and scientifically and legally defensible. In addition, they are understandable by the general public and private sector. (Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) – Sonafrank, Tabor; EPA – Chung, Beckwith)	A. Adopt WQS revisions through the Triennial Review process. For each WQS revision, follow agreed-on "early involvement" procedures, which include developing a work plan for the package identifying schedules and resources needed to develop and approve the WQS. Work constructively with EPA to facilitate resolution of issues prior to package submittal. Conduct tribal outreach similar to Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) tribal communication protocols. Submit packages to the Environmental	Participate early in all WQS development processes. Provide technical assistance and timely informal review and comment to DEC. Address and identify potential disapproval topics before the revisions are state-adopted. Work constructively with DEC to facilitate resolution of issues prior to package submittal. Attend regular, including quarterly, teleconference calls and meetings with DEC to review the progress on action plan for EPA, review of state regulations, discuss standards actions, and update schedules. Facilitate federal agencies' early	<u>DEC and EPA agree to "early involvement" procedures that may include:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• quarterly teleconferences between DEC and EPA to discuss active WQS projects• a collaboratively-developed work plan for each proposed regulation revision including schedule of deliverables and communication and outreach plan(s)• identification of resources needed by both agencies to develop and approve the WQS at least 90 days prior to public notice of proposed regulations• sharing of pre-public notice draft of proposed regulations with EPA at

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	<p>Protection Agency (EPA) with appropriate and thorough explanation, rationale, and supporting documentation. Participate in early and substantive exchange of information with the Services to facilitate timely resolution of Endangered Species Act/Essential Fish Habitat (ESA/EFH) issues. Attend regular, including quarterly, teleconferences and meetings with EPA to discuss standards actions and update schedules. Performance Activity Measures (PAM) WQ-4.</p>	<p>involvement for ESA/EFH reviews. Facilitate timely and thorough tribal consultation. Provide timely reviews (according to agreed-upon timeline for each WQS submittal).</p>	<p>least 30 days prior to public notice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> development of EPA plan and milestone schedule for review of state regulations within 30 days of submittal review, notification, and action on WQS revisions by EPA within agreed-on time-frames
	<p>B. Establish site specific criteria (SSC), conduct use attainability analyses (UAAs), and reclassify waterbodies as necessary for APDES permits or Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL). Work with EPA as early as possible to discuss the basis for and analyses and documentation that might be needed to support changes that may be</p>	<p>EPA review, notification, and take action on SSC or UAAs for waterbody classifications. Provide timely comments on draft UAA for waterbody reclassification and SSC proposals. Provide access to EPA technical expertise for waterbody reclassification and SSC development. Conduct timely ESA, EFH, and tribal</p>	<p>Requested UAA for waterbody reclassification and SSC completed to reflect SSC and designated uses, as appropriate. Requested UAA reclassifications and SSC acted on timely and, where possible, within permitting and TMDL schedules. Ongoing.</p>

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	<p>appropriate. Conduct tribal outreach similar to APDES tribal communication protocols. Submit packages to EPA with appropriate and thorough explanation, rationale, and supporting documentation. Participate in early and substantive exchange of information with the Services to facilitate timely resolution of ESA/EFH issues.</p> <p>PAM WQ-3, WQ-4.</p>	<p>consultation, as necessary.</p>	
	<p>C Keep informed of the following WQS issues: adoption of updated standard analytical methods, adoption and implementation of 2007 copper criteria for aquatic life by Region 10 states, selenium and cadmium criteria for aquatic life in fresh waters, development of nutrient criteria for aquatic life, adoption of ammonia criteria for freshwaters, and efforts to revise, adopt, and adoption and implementation of human health criteria in other Region 10 states. DEC will</p>	<p>Notify DEC of developments relating to national, regional, or other guidance that may be discussed in national or regional forums. Provide access to EPA technical expertise for development of antidegradation implementation regulations and revised human health criteria.</p>	<p>Current understanding and awareness of developments on these issues.</p>

Outcome	DEC Tasks/Activities	EPA Tasks/Activities	Measures/Completion Date
	consider developments relating to these issues and will notify EPA of any new activities on this issue it may pursue. PAM WQ-3.		